

**PROVINCIAL DENTAL BOARD
OF
NOVA SCOTIA**



**PROCEEDINGS
2009**

PROVINCIAL DENTAL BOARD OF NOVA SCOTIA



Chair – Dr. E. Hatfield
Vice Chair – Dr. I. Doyle
Registrar - Dr. W. A. MacInnis

Board Membership 2009

<u>Member</u>	<u>Appointment</u>	<u>Term</u>
Dr. Eric Hatfield, Chair	NSDA	Dec. 2010 (2)
Dr. Ian Doyle, Vice-Chair	NSDA	Dec. 2010 (2)
Dr. Clare Champoux	NSDA	Dec. 2011 (1)
Dr. Lee Erickson	NSDA	Dec. 2010 (1)
Dr. Meryll Lawton	NSDA	Dec. 2010 (1)
Dr. Tom Raddall, III	Government	Dec. 2010 (1)
Dr. Andrew Stewart	Government	Dec. 2010 (3)
Dr. John Miller	Government	Dec. 2010 (3)
Ms. Odette d'Eon, RDH	Government	Dec. 2010 (2)
Ms. Angela Worsley, RDA	Government	Dec. 2010 (3)
Mrs. K. Cormier, Public	Government	Dec. 2010 (3)
Mr. D. Rudderham, Public	Government	Dec. 2010 (3)
Ms. R. Bourque, RDH	NSDHA	Dec. 2010 (3)
Ms. Judy Oakley, RDA	NSDAA	Dec. 2010 (2)

Standing Committees

Discipline Committee

Dr. T. Boyle, Chair

Complaints Committee

Dr. J. S. Christie, Chair

Discipline Committee Membership

Dr. T. Boyle	Oct. 2010
Dr. R. Lohnes	Dec. 2010
Dr. J. Cullinan	Dec. 2010
Dr. N. Layton	Dec. 2010
Dr. S. Lewis	Dec. 2011
Dr. D. MacLeod	Dec. 2010
Ms. J. Clovis, RDH	May 2009
Ms. S. MacIntosh, RDH	May 2009
Ms. A. Fitzpatrick, RDA	Dec. 2010
Dr. D. Anderson	Dec. 2009
Dr. D. Penwell	Oct. 2012
Dr. I. Ross	May 2011
Dr. K. Walsh	Oct. 2010
Dr. G. Creighton	Oct. 2010
Dr. M. Hurst	Oct. 2010
Dr. P. Thomson	Oct. 2010
Mr. S. Beaton, Public	Oct. 2010
Mr. R. Desborough, Public	Oct. 2010

Complaints Committee Membership

Dr. J. Christie	June 2010
Dr. S. Abbass	May 2011
Dr. F. Gogan	May 2011
Dr. J. Porter	May 2011
Dr. P. MacEachern	Oct. 2010
Dr. Richard Reftus	Oct. 2010
Dr. R. MacGillivray	Oct. 2010
Dr. R. Hall	Oct. 2010
Mr. L. Shipp, Public	Jan. 2011
Ms. N. Neish, RDH	May 2009
Ms. M. Briggs, RDH	May 2009
Ms. N. Penney, RDA	June 2010
Ms. M. Crawford, RDA	June 2010
Mr. Bill Watson, Public	Oct. 2010
Ms. H. Davies, Public	Jan. 2011

MCDE Committee

Dr. P. Downing , Chair

DPR Committee

Dr. G. Opie, Chair

MCDE Committee Membership

Dr. P. Downing	Sept. 2010
Dr. K. Rhodenizer	Sept. 2012
Dr. D. Inghan	Sept. 2010
Ms. C. Cooke, RDA	Sept. 2010
Ms. C. d'Entremont, RDH	May 2009
Ms. W. Stewart, RDH	May 2009
Dr. W. A. MacInnis, Registrar	

Dental Practice Review Committee Membership

Dr. G. Opie, Chair	Dec. 2011
Dr. D. West	Dec. 2010
Dr. G. Anderson	Dec. 2011

2009 BOARD PROCEEDINGS

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Report of the Chair – 2009

The Provincial Dental Board held three regularly scheduled meetings in Halifax on January 30th, May 29th, and September 18th in 2009.

One of the first initiatives of the Board was a commitment to begin the Provincial Dental Board's governance renewal process, which was led by Ms. Maureen Reid of Boardworks Consulting Services. A Working Group was established and the Board expects the process to be completed in the fall of 2010 with implementation by 1 January 2011.

The Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT) was brought into effect in 2009 by the Provincial Governments. This provides full labour mobility between the Provinces. The Dental Regulatory Authorities (DRAs), through the Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities Federation (CDRAF), have developed an AIT Accord, which addresses the issues that needed to be implemented to enable the DRA's to be in compliance with Chapter 7 of AIT. The Accord built on the DRA's past Mutual Recognition Agreements for dentists and dental specialists and the development of a Memorandum of Understanding on the licensing / registration of internationally trained dentists and dental specialists. The MOU was agreed to, and signed by all Provincial DRAs with respect to general dentists. Discussions have continued into 2010 with hope of all signing for specialists early in the year. The Provincial Dental Board has been supportive of this process to enable a uniform evaluation and registration process all across Canada.

As of the end of 2009 the PDB has not received any response from the Competition Bureau of Canada regarding the surveys completed last year by all the Regulatory Authorities.

On May 15th, 2009, the new Dental Hygiene Act was proclaimed and dental hygienists now are licensed and regulated by The College of Dental Hygienists of Nova Scotia. The transfer of Dental hygienist's records, registration information and prorated license fees have all been completed smoothly.

Also in May of 2009, Order in Council was granted for a new category of licensure for foreign trained specialists. The amendment permits inclusion in the Dentist Register for those individuals who possess a NDEB Certificate or a Limited Speciality Certificate. The category of Academic Licensure was also eliminated, with the agreement of the University, except for those licensed before July 1, 2008.

A PDB Guideline on The Use of Velscope in a Dental Office was developed, passed and adopted in 2009. The new Guideline is posted on the PDB Website. (www.pdbns.ca).

During the past two years CDRAF, and it's legal council, have been developing a common Certificate of Standing and Consent for Release of Information for applicants for licensure in any provincial jurisdiction. These documents were produced to provide a uniform application and information gathering process across Canada for mobility under the new AIT Agreement. The two forms have been adopted by the PDB and can be found on the PDB website.

The Board has agreed to remain vigilant on both national and provincial levels with regards to Tooth Whitening. If evidence becomes available of patient harm and /or evidence based outcomes suggest the need for Health Canada to modify there policies, then the PDB would take appropriate action.

The Provincial Dental Board approved revised Guidelines for Deep Sedation and General Anesthesia in the Dental Office at its September Board meeting. These can also be found on the PDB website.

For the third year in a row, the Board has maintained the licensing fees for Dentists and Dental Assistants at the same level as previous years. It should be noted that because of increasing numbers of incorporations, and the increasing numbers transferring them, and all of the documentation involved, that the Board may not be able to hold Corporation License fees at the same level in the future.

Finally, the discussions regarding the use of Botox in dental practice have been lengthy and ongoing. The Board is obtaining input from all of the pertinent stakeholders and after all information is collected and discussed the Board will develop a Policy on this complex issue.

Respectfully submitted

Dr. Eric Hatfield, Chair
Provincial Dental Board of Nova Scotia

Report of the Registrar – 2009

Statistics (December 31, 2009)

DDS	538
DDS Students	9
DA	745
Incorporations	368

Year	DDS	Students	DA	Corporations
2008	528	11	733	349
2007	511	6	679	330
2006	512	7	680	322
2005	510	7	678	320

Dental Board Highlites

Board Appointments

Dr. Clare Champoux was appointed to the Dental Board effective January 1, 2009.

Complaints Committee

Dr. Simone Abbass	Reappointment
Dr. Fred Gogan	Reappointment
Ms. Marina Crawford (RDA)	Reappointment

Discipline Committee

Dr. Ian Ross	Reappointment
Ms. Anne Fitzpatrick (RDA)	Reappointment
Dr. Don Penwell	Reappointment

Mandatory Continuing Dental Education Committee

Dr. Ken Rhodenizer	Reappointment
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Prescription Monitoring Program

Drug Utilization Review Committee

Dr. Ben Davis	Appointment
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Respectfully submitted,

Dr. W. A. MacInnis, DDS
Registrar

Report of the Complaints Committee - 2009

2009 saw a reduced volume but an increase in the seriousness of complaints. Occasional cases are simply a patient wanting to confirm that their experience was reasonable but in the vast majority, the complaints require considerable study and consideration by the committee members. From the outset, we are aware that our decision is going to disappoint either the defendant or the plaintiff. We are therefore going to ever greater lengths to investigate, and more time is spent consulting with the committee lawyer. Many cases now require three or more meetings to conclude, the usual explanation being the need for more information but, on occasion one or other of the parties being less than cooperative.

Two thoughts come to mind:

The first is that we are regularly seeing cases that arise because a patient experienced a dental problem that constituted an emergency. Their dentist of record was unavailable and had made no provision for after hours care. A second dentist in another office was caring enough to see the stranger and ended up being dragged before us because the patient believed that they had been given substandard care. In all of these cases, I believe that there would have been no complaint if the dentist of record had made arrangements for emergency coverage in their absence. In my opinion failing to do so is both unprofessional and disrespectful of your patients. You may also be setting a friend up for trouble.

The second concerns the strategies of defendants who come before us. Most, while concerned, conduct themselves professionally and seem to recognize that they are before peers who are not out to "get them". A minority on the other hand are argumentative and probably don't help their cause by attacking the committee and process.

If you should have the pleasure to being called before us, bear in mind that our primary function is to try and resolve complaints at our level, thereby avoiding reference to discipline except in extreme cases.

I would like to thank the Registrar, and his assistant Jane, the members of the committee, and our lawyer Michael Woods for their diligence and support over the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. John Christie, Chair
Complaints Committee

Report of the Discipline Committee – 2009

Last year, 2009, was not a busy year for the Discipline Committee of the Provincial Dental Board of Nova Scotia. No new cases were dealt with. There was only some correspondence dealt with regarding a recently completed case.

Dr. Doug Anderson concluded his long membership on our Committee, and I would like to thank him for his contribution to the Dental Board. His wise counsel will be missed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Tom Boyle, Chair
Discipline Committee

Report of the Mandatory CE Committee – 2009

The usual inquiries concerning eligibility and classification of CE courses were made and those that Jane Donovan or I could not handle were dealt with by committee consensus via email.

All outstanding deficiencies from the 2008 CE audit were resolved in 2009 to the committee's satisfaction.

The current 2009 CE audit involves 26 DDS's and 21 RDA's. The committee meets on March 26th 2010 to review the submissions. The agenda for that meeting also includes a review of policy for repeat cycle extensions due to maternity leaves, and discussion on a proposed re-licensure testing program.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Paul Downing, Chair
Mandatory Continuing Dental Education Committee

Annual NDEB Report - 2009

The Annual Meeting of the National Dental Examining Board of Canada took place on October 24, 2009. In attendance were Executive Director and Registrar Dr. J. Gerrow, President Dr. D. Joly (Quebec), President Elect Dr. M. Bourgeois (Newfoundland and Labrador), Past-President Dr. Melanie Wood (Manitoba), the 7 other provincial representatives, Public Representative Mrs. M. Ryan, NDEB administrative staff, and several observers.

Reports were given by the chairs of the various committees. Of particular interest was the report by Dr. M. Bourgeois, the Chair of the Examinations Committee. Much attention has been given to addressing concerns over the reconstruction and distribution of examination questions by some examination candidates. This has apparently occurred to a significant degree with questions being shared in a number of ways, including online, resulting in some students having an unfair advantage. In response to this, there is a planned systematic strategy to release the test item bank of multiple choice questions. The Released Test Item Bank will include active and retired questions from 1994 to the present and will include the questions and response options, but not the answer key. Initially, approximately 6500 test items will be released on the NDEB website, with a systematic release of up to an additional 200 test items per year. Development of new test items is ongoing and does require significant time and resources.

Also new is the implementation of an online registration process which all examination candidates will be required to use. This has taken effect and all candidates for the March 2010 examinations have successfully registered using this process.

Additionally, reports and correspondence were received from the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada, the Royal College of Dentists of Canada, the Canadian Dental Association, the CDA Council on Education, The Association of Canadian Faculties of Dentistry, the ADA Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations, and the American Association of Dental Examination.

Respectfully Submitted,

Doug Mackey, DDS

Report of the Dental Practice Review Committee – 2009

The Dental Practice Review (DPR) Committee met on March 13, 2009 at the Dalhousie Dental School.

All Committee members were present – Dr. Graham Opie, Dr. Glen Anderson and Dr. Daryl West. The purpose of the meeting was to review the Self Assessment documents that were returned by those who were randomly selected to participate in the review process.

All documents were reviewed and it was agreed upon by the Committee that in comparison to the majority there were noticeable differences associated with 9 of them and that this may or may not trigger an office review process.

The names of these individuals are on record with the Committee chair and if necessary can be given to the PDB in an appropriate manner. A motion to accept the minutes of the meeting was made by Dr. Daryl West and seconded by Dr. Glen Anderson.

Eleven dentists were selected in the second phase of the 2009 DPR process. Three dentists identified in the sample were no longer practicing due to retirement and illness.

Four office visits were conducted in metropolitan Halifax and were considered a success. A number of suggestions relating to infection control and dental records were discussed with the office staff. The process was well received by all participants.

Respectfully submitted

Dr. Graham Opie, Chair
Dental Practice Review Committee